IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method of network collaboration through embedded annotation and rendering instructions to generate, transmit, and render collaborative content, the method comprising the steps of:

generating by an originator client workstation a collaborative content including a base document having a document identifier that identifies a location of a content; and at least one collaborative content element that comprises at least one annotation therein and rendering instructions therefore so as to annotate said base document by embedding said at least one annotation and instructions therefore as an encoded representation of collaborative content and forwarding the collaborative content to a server for execution,;

rendering by a server said collaborative content element to said base document in accordance with said rendering instructions, and providing said collaborative content to said originator client workstation for display.

2. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of annotating said collaborative content by adding another collaborative content element.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said annotating step comprises presenting annotation options to said client workstation.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said annotating step comprises inputting a text element to name said collaborative content element.

5. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said annotating step comprises inputting at least one of a symbol, shape and a text input element to generate said at least one of a symbol, shape and a text as said collaborative element.

6. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 2 wherein said annotating step comprises providing a visual cue to indicate the state of said collaborative content.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein said visual cue comprises at least one of a marker, cursor, icon, and marquee box.

8. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 59, wherein said transmitting step is initiated by a user selecting a visual element to transmit said collaborative content subsequent to said collaborative content being saved.

9. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said originator client workstation includes as least one of a personal computer equipped with internet browser software, a mobile communication device with a graphical or textual display, and a personal digital assistant equipped with a hypertext viewer.

10. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said originator client workstation includes a program execution capability comprising:

an interpreted software program;

a compiled software program; and

a software program executed by a virtual machine.

11. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 59, wherein said transmitting step is performed using a messaging system.

12. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said messaging system includes at least one of:

an electronic mail system;

an electronic news or bulletin-board system; and

a mobile paging system.

13. (Previously presented) the method as claimed in claim 59, wherein said transmitting step is performed using a transport mechanism including at least one of:

an internet protocol;

a wireless protocol;

a synchronous messaging protocol; and

an asynchronous messaging protocol.

14. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said network is a peer-to-peer network, and the rendering step is performed on a server portion of said originator client workstation in said peer-to-peer network.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 59, wherein the collaborative content transmitted in said transmitting step includes a URL and rendering instructions.

17. (Previously presented) A network collaboration tool using embedded annotation and rendering instructions comprising:

a web browser software for displaying a collaborative content in accordance with rendering instructions therefor, said collaborative content including a base document having a document identifier that identifies a location of a content of said base document and at least one collaborative content element having an embedded annotation in said document identifier;

a graphical collaboration tool for generating at least one collaborative content element on the collaborative content displayed in said web browser software and transmitting the at least one collaborative content element and rendering instructions therefore; and

a server process for receiving the at least one generated collaborative content element and rendering instructions therefor, rendering the collaborative content in combination with the received collaborative content element in accordance with the

received rendering instructions, and generating a combined collaborative content including the received collaborative content element and embedded annotation in the document identifier thereof for display by said web browser software.

18. (Previously presented) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 17, wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes a toolbar.

19. (Previously presented) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 18 wherein said toolbar includes an add circle tool, an add rectangle tool, an add arrow tool, and add text tool, and an add text highlight tool.

20. (Previously presented) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 17 wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes a collaborative content element name entry field.

21. (Previously presented) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 17 wherein said web browser software, said graphical collaboration tool, and said server process execute on the same computer system.

22. (Previously presented) The network collaboration tool as claimed in claim 17 wherein said web browser software, said graphical collaboration tool, and said server process each execute on a separate computer system.

23. (Previously presented) A system for network collaboration using embedded annotation and rendering instructions comprising:

a processor for receiving and transmitting data; and

a memory coupled to the processor, said memory having stored therein sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to generate a collaborative content including a base document having a document identifier that identifies a location of content of said base document, and at least one collaborative content element having an embedded annotation in said document identifier and

rendering instructions therefore, to render the collaborative content in accordance with rendering instructions.

24. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 23 wherein said memory further comprises sequences of instructions which, when executed by said processor, cause said processor to annotate the collaborative content by adding another collaborative content element.

25. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 24 wherein said annotate instructions comprise presenting annotation options to a user at the client workstation.

26. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 24 wherein said annotate instructions comprise inputting a text element to name said collaborative content element.

27. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 24 wherein said annotate instructions comprise inputting at least one of a symbol, shape and a text input element to generate said at least one of a symbol, shape and text as said collaborative element.

28. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 24 wherein said annotate instructions comprise providing a visual cue to indicate the state of said collaborative content.

29. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 28 wherein the visual cue comprises at least one of a marker, cursor, icon, and marquee box.

30. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 64, wherein said transmit instruction is initiated by a user selecting a visual element to transmit the collaborative content subsequent to said collaborative content being saved.

31. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 23 wherein the client workstation includes at least one of a personal computer equipped with internet browser software, a mobile communication device with a graphical or textual display, and a personal digital assistant equipped with a hypertext viewer.

32. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 23 wherein the client workstation includes a program execution capability comprising:

an interpreted software program;

a compiled software program; and

a software program executed by a virtual machine.

33. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 64, wherein a transmit instruction is performed using a messaging system.

34. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 33 wherein the messaging system includes at least one of:

an electronic mail system;

an electronic news or bulletin-board system; and

a mobile paging system.

35. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 64, wherein a transmit instruction is performed using a transport mechanism including at least one of:

an internet protocol;

a wireless protocol;

a synchronous messaging protocol; and

an asynchronous messaging protocol.

36. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the rendering instructions are performed on a client workstation.

37. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 23 wherein the rendering instructions are performed on a server.

38. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 64, wherein the collaborative content transmitted includes a URL comprising the embedded annotation and rendering instructions.

39. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 23 wherein said sequences of instructions include at least one of a client-side scripting language.

40. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 23 wherein said sequences of instructions include at least one of Javascript and dynamic HTML.

41. (Previously presented) A client system for network collaboration comprising:

a collaborative content including a base document having a document identifier that identifies a location of content of said base document and at least one collaborative content element having an embedded annotation in said document identifier, and rendering instructions therefore; and

a graphical collaboration tool for generating, rendering said collaborative content in accordance with said rendering instructions, and transmitting said collaborative content with said rendering instructions embedded in said document identifier therein, wherein said graphical collaboration tool is downloaded from a server.

42. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 41 wherein said collaborative content is referenceable by a URL.

43. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 41 wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes a client-side scripting language.

44. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 41 wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes at least one of Javascript and dynamic HTML.

45. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 41 wherein said collaborative content includes a URL of the base document and a representation of the collaborative content element.

46. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 41, wherein said graphical collaboration tool, in response to a user manipulating said graphical collaboration tool to add a collaborative content element, transmits a representation of the collaborative content element and the URL of said collaborative content to a server and receives from the server said collaborative content including the added collaborative content element.

47. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 41 wherein said graphical collaboration tool, in response to a user manipulating said graphical collaboration tool to modify a collaborative content element, transmits a representation of the collaborative content element and the URL of said collaborative content to a server and receives from the server said collaborative content including the modified collaborative content element.

48. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 41 wherein said graphical collaboration tool includes a toolbar.

49. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 48 wherein the tool bar includes an add circle tool, an add rectangle tool, and add arrow tool, an add text tool, and an add text highlight tool.

50. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 48 wherein the tool bar includes a collaborative content element name entry field.

51. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 46 wherein said collaborative content received from the server includes an HTML page.

52. (Previously presented) The client system as claimed in claim 47 wherein said collaborative content received from the server includes an HTML page.

53. (Previously presented) A server system for network collaboration comprising:

a collaborative content including a base document having a document identifier that identifies a location of a content of said base document and at least one collaborative content element having a first embedded annotation to said document identifier as an encoded representation of said collaborative content, and first rendering instructions therefore; and

a server process for responding to a user request wherein the user request includes at least one of a request for said collaborative content, a graphical collaboration tool, said collaborative content including an added collaborative content element having a second embedded annotation to said document identifier as an encoded representation of said added collaborative content, and second rendering instructions therefore, and said collaborative content including a modified collaborative content element having a third embedded annotation to said document identifier as an encoded representation of said modified collaborative content, and third rendering instructions therefore.

54. (Previously presented) The server system as claimed in claimed 53 wherein said collaborative content is referenceable by a URL.

55. (Previously presented) The server system as claimed in claim 53 wherein said server process is a CGI script.

56. (Previously presented) The server system as claimed in claim 53 wherein said collaborative content includes a URL of the base document and a representation of the collaborative content element.

57. (Previously presented) The server system as claimed in claim 53 wherein said server process executes on a client workstation of a user.

58. (Previously presented) The server system as claimed in claim 53 wherein said collaborative content transmitted in response to a user request includes an HTML page.

59. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

transmitting between said originator client workstation and at least one receiver client workstation a document identifier having said rendering instructions embedded therein and comprising said collaborative content.

~~61~~ 60. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of annotating said collaborative content by adding another collaborative content element by said at least one receiver client workstation.

~~62~~ 61. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the document identifier comprises a Universal Resource Locator (URL).

~~63~~ 62. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the document identifier comprises a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML).

~~64~~ 63. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the document identifier comprises an Extensible Markup Language (XML).

~~65~~ 64. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 23, further adapted for transmitting the collaborative content and rendering instructions therefore between client workstations.

~~66~~ 65. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim ~~65~~ 64, wherein the client workstations transmit collaborative content and rendering instructions via a server.